



*What small changes can you and your family implement in your daily routine to help keep our streets, sidewalks, and trails safe?*

## **WORK ZONE SAFETY**

The National Safety Council states that there are more than 100 road construction workers killed each year; nearly half of these deaths are the result of workers being struck by motor vehicles. More concerning is that the number of injuries and fatalities are predicted to climb due to increases in distracted drivers, traffic congestion, and increased speed limits.

“Work Zones” are designated areas where roadwork is taking place, and are normally identified by warning signs, reduced speed limits, cones, barrels, and/or barricades. Work may involve detours, lane closures, and heavy equipment, and are often variable based on the type of road and the work to be done. Work zones can be short-term or long-term and can happen any time of the year.

The American Driver Traffic Safety Education Association provides the following driver safety tips for traveling in and around Work Zones:

- Watch the traffic around you and be prepared to react by reducing your speed, obeying signs and flaggers and increasing your following distance.
- Do not become oblivious to work zone signs when the work is long term or widespread, and be aware that traffic patterns in work zones can change daily (including lane shifts or alternating lane closures).
- If traffic is light and speeds are still relatively high, merge early. If congestion increases, traffic slows down and gaps between cars close up, merge late and use the “zipper” method.
- Use extreme caution when driving through a work zone at night, whether workers are present or not.
- Adjust your lane position away from the side where workers and equipment are located when possible.
- Some work zones are mobile and moving, such as when lane painting, road patching or mowing are occurring. Just because you do not see the workers immediately after you see the warning sign does not mean they are not out there.
- Observe the posted signs until you see the one that says “End Road Work.” Expect delays, plan for them, and leave early to reach your destination on time.
- When you can, avoid work zones altogether by using alternate routes.

Work Zones on our roadways continue to become more and more dangerous places for workers and

drivers alike. Help us Prevent a Roadway Tragedy by paying attention and driving cautiously through Work Zones.

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## DO YOUR PART TO PREVENT ANY ROADWAY TRAGEDY

The goal of P.A.R.T. is to reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on community roadways and thoroughfares by providing information on avoiding traffic incidents involving pedestrians, bicyclists and motor vehicle operators. Please accept our challenge to do your part to **Prevent Any Roadway Tragedy**.

All P.A.R.T. literature is available to the public on our website at [www.domypart.org](http://www.domypart.org). We encourage community leaders to download a free Campaign Toolkit at the site.



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